

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-07 SS-20 SP-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

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NSC:MR. STEARMAN (SUBSTANCE)

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P 051729Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR LA

SUBJECT: NVA PRESENCE IN LAOS

REF: A. VTE 4349; B. STATE 114180

1. IN ADDITION TO INFORMATION IN REFTEL A, WE HAVE PREPARED THE FOLLOWING Q AND A FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN'S USE IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS ON NVA FORCES IN LAOS.

Q. ARE OTHER COUNTRIES ABIDING BY THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAOS SETTLEMENT?

A. IN CONTRAST TO THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE US TO COMPLY WITH THE 1973 LAOS ACCORDS AND THE PORTIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT THAT APPLY TO LAOS, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE STILL RETAIN ABOUT 50,000 TROOPS IN LAOS. ALTHOUGH THE LAOS AGREEMENT REQUIRES THAT ALL FOREIGN TROOPS LEAVE LAOS WITHIN 60 DAYS OF THE FORMATION OF THE PGNU (JUNE 4, 1974),

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WE HAVE SEEN NO INDICATION THAT THE NORTH VIETNAMESE INTEND

TO COMPLY WITH THIS PROVISION OR WITH ARTICLE 20 OF THE
PARIS AGREEMENT. KISSINGER

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